

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated September 27, 2006. Claims 1 to 9 are in the application, with Claims 1 and 3 being independent. Claims 1 and 3 have been amended herein. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 4 and 6 to 9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 4,562,524 (Mutoh), and Claim 5 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mutoh. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

According a feature of the invention as recited by Claims 1 and 3, the calculating step follows the setting step.

Mutoh is not seen to disclose or suggest at least the above-discussed feature.


In Mutoh, as can be seen from the subroutine shown in Fig. 6B, the calculating process precedes the setting process.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from the independent claim discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California, office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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